

III. *Description of a new genus and species of Rhyncophorous Coleoptera allied to Sipalus found in an orchid house.* By CHAS. O. WATERHOUSE.

[Read February 5th, 1879.]

THE species which I describe in this note was exhibited at the December meeting of this Society. The specimen, as I then stated, was found alive by Mr. J. C. Bowring, in his orchid house at Windsor. It is impossible to say from what locality it was imported, but it was, no doubt, from some part of India, as Mr. Pascoe possesses a specimen of the same species in his collection from Ceylon.

I propose to adopt the manuscript name attached by Mr. Pascoe to his example, viz., *Nassophasis foveata*.

NASSOPHASIS, gen. n.

General form that of *Sipalus*, but narrower and slightly compressed, with an exposed pygidium, and finely granular eyes. Rostrum as in *Sipalus granulatus*, but rather more curved, with the mouth of *Rhyncophorus*. Antennæ inserted near the base of the rostrum, the funiculus with six joints, the 2nd distinctly longer than the 1st, the 3rd to 6th transverse; the club about twice as long as broad, compressed, shining, a little narrower at the base than before the apex; the apex spongy. Thorax subcylindrical, constricted within the apex, bisinuate at the base. Scutellum small, elongate ovate. Elytra moderately convex, a little broader than the thorax, somewhat compressed at the sides, declivous at the apex, leaving the pygidium exposed. Anterior coxæ globular, contiguous; intermediate coxæ slightly separated; posterior coxæ widely separated. Legs as in *Sipalus*; tarsi of *Rhyncophorus*, the 3rd joint broadly cordiform, spongy beneath.

The characters may be exhibited thus:—

<i>Sipalus.</i>	<i>Rhyncophorus.</i>
Form and appearance.	Eyes finely granular.
Scutellum small.	
Rostrum.	Mouth pit.
Underside of the body.	
Legs.	Tarsi.
Pygidium (in form).	Pygidium, exposed.

From these characters it will be seen that this genus should be placed near *Sipalus*, and between it and *Rhyncophorus*.

Nassophasis foveata.

Atra, opaca; thorace foveato-punctato, guttâ medianâ albâ; elytris seriatim foveato-punctatis, guttis nonnullis circa humeris fasciâque angustâ subapicali albis.

Long. $4\frac{3}{4}$ lin.

Thorax a little longer than broad, constricted within the apex, rather straight at the sides, a trifle narrower towards the base, the whole upper surface covered with deep foveæ, which leave narrow intervals; there is a small whitish spot on the disk, a little white at the sides. Elytra rather broader than the thorax, a little narrowed posteriorly, convex (but flattened at the sutural region), with lines of large, deep, elongate foveæ, which leave the narrow intervals elevated; there are some half-dozen whitish spots placed round the shoulders, and a little before the apex a whitish fascia, slightly ascending at the suture. Pygidium trapeziform, with some deep punctures.

To-day, Mr. Bowering brought to the British Museum three living specimens of this species, which he had taken on an orchid (*Aërides Fieldingii*) received from the Khasia Hills. March 18th, 1879.